

ARTICLES

 To be enquired of, 30

within the Archdeaconry of Essex,
by the Church-wardens & Sworne-
men in every Parish.

*And presentment to be made thereof
to the Arch-deacon.*

*With particular Answers unto
every Article.*



LONDON

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1615.



The tenor of the Oath ministred to the
Church-Wardens and Sworne-men.

WE shall sweare, that all affections, fauour, hatred, hope of reward, or gaine, or feare of displeasure or malice set aside; you shall vpon due consideration of the Articles giuen you in charge present all and euery such person, of, or within your Parish, as hath committed any offence or fault, or made any default mentioned in any of these Articles, or which are vehemently suspected, or otherwise defamed of any such offence, fault or default, wherein you shall deale vprightly and according to equitie: neither of malice presenting any contrary to Truth, nor of corrupt affection sparing to present any, and so conceale the Truth, hauing in this action God before your eyes, with an earnest zeale to maintaine truth, and to suppress vice: So helpe you God and his faithfull promises in Christ Iesus.

1555

Printed by E. W. : At the

1555

¶ Articles to be enquired of within the
Archdeaconarie of Essex, for this present
yeere of our Lord God. 1615.

Articles concerning the Church.

 Whether haue you in your seuerall Churches and Chappells the Booke of Constitutions or Canons Ecclesiasticall, ready to be read by your Minister, according to his Maiesties pleasure, published by his highnes authoritie vnder the great Seale of England.

2 Whether is there in your Church or Chappell, one parchment register Booke, provided for Christnings, Marriages, and Burialls: and whether is the same duely and exactly kept, according to the Constitutions in that case provided, and a transcript thereof brought in yearely within one moneth after Easter, into my Lord Bishops principall Registers office: and whether doth your Minister vpon euery Sunday reade the names of all such as haue bene married, christned, or buried the weeke before?

3 Whether haue you provided the Booke of Common Prayer lately commanded by his Maiesties authoritie onely to be vsed, and the Booke of Psalmes, and two Psalters: and whether haue you in your Church or Chappell a Font of Stone, set vp in the antient vsuall place: a conuenient and decent Communion table standing vpon a frame, with a Carpet of silke, or some other decent stuffe: and a faire Linnen cloth to lay thereon at the Communion time: and whether is the same then placed in such conuenient sort within the Chancell or Church, as that the Minister may be best heard in his Prayer and administration, and that the greater number may communicate: and whether are the ten Commandements set vp on the East end of your Church or Chappell, where the people may best see and reade them, and other sentences of holy Scriptures written on the walls likewise for the same purpose?

4 Whether haue you a conuenient seate for the Minister to reade service in, together with a comely Pulpit set vp in a conuenient place, with a decent cloth or Cushion for the same: a comely large Surples, a fayre Communion Cup of Silver, and a couer agreeable for the same, with all
other

Articles concerning the Clergie.

other things and ornaments necessary for the celebration of diuine Service, and administration of the Sacraments, and a strong chest for the almes of the poore, with three lockes and keyes, and another chest for the keeping of the ornaments of the Church, and Register Booke.

5 How many Bells are there at this present, hanging in the Bellfre of your parish Church, and how many haue there bene heretofore: whether any of your said Bells haue bene taken downe and sold, or made away: and what other Church goods are now wanting in your Church.

6 Whether are your Church or Chappells with the Chancells thereof, and your Parsonage or Vicarage house, and all other housing thereto belonging, in good reparations, and decently and comely kept, aswell within as without: the seates well maintained, your Churchyards well fenced, and kept without abuse, according to the 8. Canon: if not, then through whose default, and what defects are? All these things in these Articles to be prepared, according to the Canons vnder the title appertaining to Churches.

Articles concerning the Clergie.

Whether hath your Minister read the Constitutions set forth by his Maiessty, once every yeare, vpon some Sundayes or Holidayes, in the afternone, before diuine Service: according as by the Canons he is bound?

2 Whether doth your Minister vse to pray for the Kings Maiessty, King James, and for the Quenes Maiessty, Prince Charles, Fredericke Count Palatine of the Rheine; with the Lady Elizabeth his Wife, giuing vnto his highnesse such stile and title of Supreme Governour of all causes, and ouer all persons, as well Ecclesiasticall as temporall, as by lawe are due vnto him: exhorting their Parishioners to yealde him obedience according to the same: and also in their said Sermons, doe pray for all Arch-bishops, Bishops, and other Ecclesiasticall persons, according to the 55. Canon.

3 Whether is the prescript forme of diuine Service vsed by your Minister vpon Sundayes, Holidayes, Wednesdayes, and Fridayes, according to the booke of Common prayer. And whether doth your Minister duly obserue all the orders, rites, and ceremonies prescribed in the said booke of Common Prayer: as well in readinge publike prayers, the Lofany, as also in administering the Sacraments in such manner and forme, wearing the Surples, as by the booke of Common Prayer by lawe now established is iniointed.

4 Whether doth your Minister administer the holy Communion often, and at such times as that euery Parishioner may receive the same

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at the least thrice every yeare, whereof one at Easter, as by the booke of Common Prayer is appointed. And whether doth your Minister receiue the same himselfe on every day that he administreth it to others, kneeling at the same, and administreth it to none but to such as doe kneele at the receiving thereof, and vse the words of the Institution according to the booke, at euery time that the bread and wine is receiued, in such manner and forme as by the promise of the 21. Canon is directed, or wherein is he faulty, and whether is warning giuen by him before hand for the Communion, as the 22. Canon requireth.

5 Whether hath your Minister admitted any notorious offenders, or hereticke to the Communion: contrary to the 26. and 27. Constitutions, without satisfaction by due course of law before employed them; or reiected any from the Communion, who were not by publike presentment, or other open scandal, infamous, and detected of some notorious crime by common fame published in the Parish.

6 Whether the Minister, together with the Churchwardens and Avestmen, doe take diligent heed and care, that not onely all and euery of your owne parishioners doe receiue thrice in euery yeare, as aforesaid: but also that no strangers of any other Parish doe forsake their owne Minister and Parish, to come with you, contrary to the 28. Canon.

7 Whether doth your Minister vse to signe the Children with the signe of the Crosse when they are baptized, according to the booke of Common Prayer, and the 30. Canon: and whether he hath deferred, or wilfully refused to baptize any infant in his Parish being in danger, hauing bene duly informed of the weaknesse thereof, and whether the child hath died by his default without baptisme, contrary to the 68. and 69. Canons.

8 Whether is your Minister continually resident with you upon his benefice: or for how long time hath he bene absent, and where is he resident for the most part, and what other benefice hath he.

9 Whether doth your Minister, being a Preacher, preach usually according to the constitutions, eyther in his owne cure with you once every Sunday or else in some other Church or Chappell nere adjoining, where no Preacher is, according to the 45. Canon, or how hath he bene negligent in that behalfe.

10 Whether is your Minister a Preacher allowed: if yea, then by whom: if no, whether doth he procure Sermons to be preached among you once in euery moneth at the least, by such as are lawfully licensed, according to the 46. Canon, or doth contribute toward a licensed Preacher, if his liuing will beare it.

11 Whether hath your Minister another benefice: and whether doth

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he supply his absence by a Curate, that is sufficiently licensed to preach that cure of his, whereon he himselfe is not resident: or other wise in case doe not finde a preaching Minister there, by reason of the smallnesse thereof whether doth he preach at both his benefices usually himselfe, according to the 47. Canon.

12 Whether is your Preacher or Curate licensed to preach or serue the Cure, by the Bishop of this Dioces, or by any other, and by whom: whether doth your Minister or Curate serue more cures then one, contrary to the 4. Canon. If yea, then what other cure doth he also serue?

13 If your Minister be not licensed to preach as aforesaid, whether doth he reade Homilies, or rather take vpon him to expound the Scriptures either in his owne cure or elsewhere, contrary to the 49. Canon: If yea, then you are to present him, and specifie the place where he so hath preached.

14 Whether hath any person been admitted to preach within your Church or Chappell, but such as you haue well knowne to be sufficiently licensed: whome haue you so admitted: you shall present their names, and how often haue any such bene admitted to preach, and by whose procurement: and whether haue you caused euery strange Preacher, licensed or not licensed, to subscribe his name, together with the day when he preached, according to the 50. and 51. Canons: and if he were licensed, then by whom he was licensed: And whether haue they or any other preached in your Church not being soberly and decently apparelled according to the 47. Canon.

15 Whether doth your Lecturer and Preacher reade diuine Service, and administer the Sacraments in his owne person twice euery yeare, obseruing all the Ceremonies in the booke of Common Prayer established according to the 56. Canon.

16 Whether doth your Minister weare the Surples whilest he is saying the publike prayers, and administering the Sacraments: And if he be any Graduate, whether then doth he also weare vpon his Surples, during the times aforesaid, such a hood, as by the orders of his Vniuersitie is agreeable to his degree, according to the 58. Canon.

17 Whether doth your Minister euery Sunday and Holyday, before Evening Prayer, for halfe an houre or more, examine and instruct the youth, and ignorant persons of his Parish, in the ten Commandements the Articles of beliefe, and the Lords Prayer, as also in the Catechisme last set forth in the booke of Common prayer, whereby the chldren of the Parish may be prepared for confirmation, according to the 90. Canon.

18 Whether hath your Minister without license from the Archbishop, the Bishop of the Diocesse, or his Chancelor, or without Licence vnder the seale of office of the Archdeacon or his Officiall, solemnized marriage betwixt any parties,

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parties, the Banes not being thre seuerall Sundaves oꝝ Holly-daves first published in time of diuine seruice, in the seuerall Churches oꝝ Chappels of their seuerall abode, according to the booke of common Prayer, And the 62. Canon: and that also betwixt the houres of eight and twelue in the fore-noon, contrary to the 102. Canon. And whether hath your minister in the times prohibited marryed, any without such Licence, notwithstanding the times haue bene asked, as you doe knowe, beleue, oꝝ haue heard say.

19 Whether hath your Minister, since the last Canons published, so-
mitted any marryage betwixt any persons, being vnder the age of 21.
yeres, although the Banes be thrice asked, before such time as the parents
haue made knowne vnto him their consent thereunto, contrary to the 99. and
100. Canons: and whether hath he married any of another Diocesse, and
who are they, and by what authoritie, and when.

20 Whether doth your Minister vpon Sundaves at morning prayer,
declare vnto the Parishioners what holy dayes and fasting dayes are ap-
pointed to be kept the weeke following, according to the 64. Canon, where-
by they may be put in minde to prepare themselves accordingly, and to re-
surre to the Church to publike prayer, as by law they are bound.

21 Whether doth your Minister in the Rogation dayes, vse the peram-
ulation of the circuit of the parish appointed by law, and in the same per-
ambulation, moue the people to giue thanks to God foꝝ his benefits vsing
such Psalmes, Prayers, Homilies, as are to that end set forth.

22 Whether doth any man (being neither Minister noꝝ Deacon) reade
Common-prayer openly in your Church oꝝ Chappell. oꝝ administer the Sa-
crament of Baptisme, oꝝ solemnize Matrimonie, oꝝ take vpon him to practise
any other ministeriall dutie in the Church, that is prescribed to be executed
particularly by such, as are either Ministers, oꝝ Deacons, and what is his
name that so doth.

23 Whether doth your Minister euery sixe moneths denounce in his
parish, all such of his parish, as doe perseuer in the sentence of excommu-
nication, not seeking to be absolved: and whether hath he admitted any per-
son excommunicate, into the Church, without a Certificate of his absolution
from the Ordinarie oꝝ other competent Iudge, vnder his seale, according to
the Canons.

24 Whether doth your Minister being a Preacher, endeouour and la-
bour diligently with mildenes and temperance to conferre with, and thereby
to reclaim the Popish Recusants in his parish from their errours, if there
be any such there being: and whether is he painefull in visitation of the
sick, according to the booke of Common-prayer, and the Canons in that
case provided.

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25 Whether is your Parson, Vicar, Lecturer, or Curate so much frequent or ouer conuersant with, or a fauourer of Recusants, whereby he may be suspected not to be sincere in Religion.

26 Whether hath your Minister, or any other, taking vpon him the place of a Minister, preached, baptized children (vntlesse in case of necessitie) solemnized marriage, churched any woman, or ministered the holy Communion in any private house or houses: if yea, then where, whome, and how often hath so offended in any of the premises.

27 Whether hath your Minister taken vpon him to appoint any publicke or private fasts or prophesies, not approued and established by lawe publicke authoritie: or hath he attempted vpon any pretence either of possession, by fasting and prayer to cast out deuills, contrary vnto the 72. Canon.

28 Whether hath your Minister, or any other person or persons with your Parish vsed to meete in any private house or other place, and to hold private conuenticles, contrary to the 73. Canon: if yea, then you shall present them all and enery one of them.

29 Whether doth your Minister vse such decencie and comelinesse in his apparrell, as by the 74. constitution is enioyned him, as well at home as when he goeth abroad.

30 Whether doe you know in your Parish, any that hauing heretofore taken vpon him or them, the order of Priest-hood or of a Deacon, hath since relinquished the same, and betaken himselfe to the course of his life, a Layman, neglecting his vocation: if yea, then you shall present his name and the place of his abode.

31 Whether is your Minister noted or defamed to haue obtained his Benefice by Symony, or reputed to be an incontinent person, or both a rake and a man or woman in his house, that are suspected either to be of euill religion, or bad life, himselfe to be a common drunkard, or to be a common hunter of Thieues, Alehouses, or other suspected places, a common gamester or player at dice, or other vnlawfull games, a common swearer, or notorious person, or faulty in any other crime punishable by Ecclesiasticall censures, whereby he is offensive and scandalous to his function or ministry.

32 Whether doth your Minister vse the forme of thankesgiuing to women after their childbirth, and whether hath he admitted any therunto that was begotten with childe in adultery or fornication, without license of his Ordinary, and whether haue any married wiues refused to come to Church according to the booke of Common Prayer, to giue God thanks after childbirth: if any be faulty herein, you shall present their names.

33 Whether doth your Minister baptize any children in any Basen, or other vessels, then in the ordinary Font being placed in the Church, according

Articles concerning School-masters.

o the 8r. Canon o; doth vse to put any bason into it.

34 Whether in the time of diuine Service, and of euery part thereof, all due reuerence is vsed: no man then couering his head, all manner of persons kneeling when Prayers are read, and standing vp at the saying of the Beliefe, according to the order prescribed.

Articles concerning Scholemasters.

Whether the Scholemaster o; Scholemasters within your Parish, openly o; priuately, in any publicke o; Gentlemans house, or in any other place, be of good and sincere Religion, life and conversation; & be diligent in the teaching and bringing up of youth: and whether they haue bene examined, allowed and licensed for Schole-masters, by the Somarie in that behalfe: and how many seuerall Schole-masters haue you, and what be their names.

1 Whether your Schole-master, o; Schole-masters doe themselves receiue the holy Communion as often as they ought to doe: and whether doe all their Schollers, which be of age sufficient, and of capacitie, by instruction, to receiue the Lords Supper, come to the Communion either in your Church, or where their Parents dwell, once euery yeere, and be diligent to heare Common Prayer.

3 Whether the Schole-master, o; Schole-masters, either priuate o; publicke, doe teach their Schollers the Catechisme authorized by publicke authoritie, at the least once euery weeke, and doe instruct & examine them in the same, o; doe teach any other Catechisme, and what Catechisme it is that they doe teach.

4 Whether your Schole-master, o; Schole-masters, o; any of them be knowne o; suspected to reade vnto their Schollers priuately, any unlawfull Booke, o; priuately to instruct them in their young yeeres, either in Popery, superstition, disobedience, o; contempt to his Maiestie, and his Lawes Ecclesiasticall by publicke authoritie allowed.

5 What recusant Papists are there in your Parish, and whether doe they, o; any of them keepe any Schole-master in their house, which cometh not to Church to heare Diuine Service, and receiue the Communion: what is his name, and how long hath he taught.

6 Whether the Schole-master, o; Schole-masters within your Parish, doe teach his o; their Schollers any other Grammar; then that which is called the Kings Grammar, set forth by the authoritie of King Henry the eighth, teaching the prescript forme thereof, whereby the Schollers may perfectly vnderstand their Grammar rules and constructions.

Articles concerning Parishioners.

Articles concerning Parishioners, Ecclesiasticall Officers

and others of the Laytie.

1 Whether is there any within your Parish, that hath, or doth impugne the Kings Maiesties supremacie and authoritie in causes Ecclesiasticall, or doe any way, or in any part impeach the same, being restored to the Crowne by the lawes of this Realme established on that behalfe.

2 Whether is there any in your parish that denieth the Church of England by law established under the Kings most excellent Maiestie to be a true & Apostolicall Church, teaching & maintaining the doctrine of the Apostles.

3 Whether is there any in your Parish, that doth impugne any of the Articles of Religion agreed vpon in An. 1562. & established in the Church of England.

4 Whether is there any in your Parish that doe impugne or speake against the rites and ceremonies established in the Church of England, or the lawfull vse of them: you shall present their names.

5 Whether are there any in your Parish that doe impugn the government of the Church of England, under the Kings most excellent Maiestie, by Archbishops, Bishops, Deanes, Archdeacons, and the rest that beare office in the same, affirming that he same is Antichristian, or repugnant to the word of God.

6 Whether is there any in your parish that impugn the forme of consecration and ordaining of Archbishops, Bishops, Priests, or Deacons, affirming that the same is repugnant to the word of God, or that they, who are so ordered in the same forme, are not lawfully made.

7 Whether is there any in your parish that doth hold or frequent any conventicles, or private meetings, and there doe conferre or agree vpon any private orders, other then such as are by the Canons set forth by publike authority to be by them or any others in Church government observed.

8 Whether any persons haue lured or tempted in Ale houses or Ale houses, or other Holy dayes, or bled his, or their manuell craft, trade, or mystery, or any bodylie labour, or kept their shops open vpon the said dayes, or any of them, especially in the time of diuine service?

9 Whether are there any in your parish that doe, or haue prophaned (since the said last generall pardon) the Holy day, called Sunday, or other Holy day, contrary to the orders of the Church of England, prescribed in that behalfe?

10 Whether hath any person in your parish quarrelled, stricken, or bled any violence vnto, or with your Minister, or any other in the Church or Churchyard, or bled himselfe also; derly in the Church, by filthy and prophane talke, or any other rude and immodest behaviour?

Articles concerning Parishioners, &c:

11 Whether is that due reuerence and humble submission, vsed within your Church or Chappel in the time of diuine Service, as by the eighth th Constitution is prescribed: and whether each one in the Church or Chappel, doe apply and order himselfe there in the time of diuine Service, as by the latter part of the same Constitution is most commendably enioyned:

12 Whether the Church-wardens and Quest-men doe euery Sunday and Holy-day diligently search who absenteth himselfe, or her selfe from Church: and whether doe they suffer any to abide in the Church porch, or Church-yard, in the time of Common prayer or Sermon:

13 Whether the Church-wardens doe prouide against euery Communion, with the aduise of the Minister, a sufficient quantitie of fine white bread, and of good & wholesome wine, for the number of the Communicants that shall receiue, & that to be brought in a cleane and swete standing Pot of Pewter, or other pure Mettall:

14 Whether haue any in your parish bene God-fathers or God-mothers to their owne childzen: Or whether your Minister, or any God-fathers or God-mothers haue used, or doe use any other sojme, and soere, or speech in Baptisme: then is in the Booke of Common prayer appointed: Or whether any which haue not Communicated, be admitted to be God-fathers, or God-mothers, contrarie to the 29. Canon:

15 Whether is there any in your parish that doe refuse to haue their childzen baptized, or themselves to receiue the Communion at the hands of your Minister, because he is no Preacher: you shall present their names. And if your Minister, withence the publishing of the said Booke of Canons, haue receiued any such persons (being not of his owne Cure) to the Communion, or baptized any of their childzen, you shall likewise present him.

16 Whether doe all Fathers, Mothers, Masters, and Mistresses, cause their Childzen, Seruants, and Apprentises, to come to the Catechisme vpon the Sundayes and Holy dayes befoze euening prayer, to heare and to be instructed and taught therein: and those that doe not their duties herein, you shall present their names.

17 Whether haue you, or your Predecessors Church-wardens there suffered, since the last pardon, any Playes, Feasts, Banquets, Church-ales, Drinkings, or any other prophane vsages to be kept in your Church, Chappels, or Church-yard, or Bels to be rung superstitiously vpon Holy dayes, or Eues, abrogated by the Booke of Common Prayer, contrarie to the 68. Canon:

18 How many Inhabitants within your Parish, Men, or Women, aboue the age of sixteen yeres, doe refuse to frequent diuine service, established by publicke authoritie of this Realme, or to receiue the holy Communion,

Articles concerning Parishioners.

18. Whether any are negligent therein: what be their names, and of what degree, state, or trade of life are they: you are to present them all of each fozt.

19. Whether doe any of the Inhabitants within your saide Parish entertaine within their house any sojourners, lodgers, or any common resozters and guests, who refuse to frequent diuine Seruice, or receive the holy Communion, as aforesaid: what be their names, and of what qualitie or condition are they?

20. Whether any of the said Popish Recusants be of insolent behaviour, not without publike offence, or doe boldly busie themselves, in seducing, or withstanding others, either abroad or in their owne families, by instructing their children in Popish religion, or by refusing to entertaine any, especially in place of greatest service or trust, but such as concur with them in opinion of Religion: and what be their names that so doe?

21. How long the said Popish Recusants haue obstinately abstained eyther from diuine Seruice, or from the Communion, as is aforesaid, whether of any long time, or onely since his Maesties raigne, and how long?

22. What persons aforesaid within your Parish, either for the offence aforesaid, or for any other continuacie or crime, doe remaine excommunicated: what be their names: and for what cause? and how long haue they so stood excommunicated?

23. Whether were you the Church-wardens and Auck-men chosen by the consent of the Minister and Parishioners, in Easter weeke, according vnto the 89. and 90. Canon. And whether haue the Church-wardens before yourtyme by a last account for their time, and deliuered to you their successors, whatsoever money or other thing of right belonging to the Church, which was in their hands: according to the 89. Canon.

24. Whether doe all persons aboue the age of sixtene yeres, vsually resort to heare diuine Seruice vpon Sundales and Holy-daies approued? and whether hath each one of your Parishioners (being aboue the age of sixtene yeres, as aforesaid) receiued the holy Communion thrice this last yere, chiefly once at Easter, in your Parish Church kneeling? If no, then you shall present their name which haue not so done.

25. Whether haue you a fit Parish Clarke, aged twentie yeres at the least, of honest conuersation, and sufficient for reading and writing: and whether he be paid his wages without fraude, according to the most ancient custome of your Parish? if not, then by whom is he so defrauded and demped: and whether he be chosen by the Parson or Vicar, or by whom, according to the 91. Canon?

26. Whether haue any in your Parish bene married within the prohibited degrees forbidden by the law, and expressed in a certain Table published

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lished by authority in Anno. 1563. If yea, then you shall present their names? and whether haue you the saide Table publickely set vp in your Church, and fastned to some conuenient place?

27 Whether both any heretofore diuorced, or married and not diuorced, keepe company at bed and board as man and wife, with any other man or woman, then with the person that he or she was married vnto? and what be their names? If the parties now so lining together, say that they be marryed, when and where were they marryed? and how long haue they so continued together?

28 Whether haue you in your Parish to your knowledge, or by common fame and report, any which haue committed Adultery, Fornication, or Incest, or any Bawdes, harboyers, or receiuers of such persons, or publickely suspected thereof, which haue not bene publickely punished to your knowledge? if yea, then with whome? And whether are there any which are by common fame and report reputed and taken to be common Drunkards, Blasphemers of Gods holy Name, common and vsuall swearers, filthy speakers, raylers, sowers of discorde among their Neighbours, or speakers against Ministers marriages: Whurers, contrarie to the Statute made in the seauen and thirtieth yere of King Henry the eight, Symoniacall persons, fighters, bawlers, or quarrellers in Church or Church-yard? you shall not faile to present their names.

29 Whether haue any in your Parish receiued or harboured any woman gotten with childe out of wedlock, and suffered them againe to depart without pennances first inflicted vpon them by their Ordinarie? you shall truly present as well the partie harbouring as harboured, and who is suspected to haue committed incontinencie with her.

30 Whether any person or persons suspected or detected heretofore of incontinencie, and therefore departing out of your Parish for a season, is now returned againe? or in what place else is he or she now abiding to your knowledge, or as you haue heard? you shall not faile to present the whole truth in that behalfe.

31 Whether there be any person or persons Ecclesiasticall or Temporall within your Parish, or elsewhere within the Diocess, that haue retained and kept in their custodie, or that reade, sell, vnder, disperse, carrie, or deliuer to others any English or Latine Bookes, or Libels, set forth or printed, either on this side or beyond the Seas, by Papists or Sectaries against the Kings Supremacie in causes Ecclesiasticall, or tending to Popery, Puritanisme, or any other Sect, Errour, or Heresie, against true Religion, and Catholike doctrine, now publickely professed in this Church, or the gouernment or discipline of the Church of England, now within this

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Meane receiued and established by common authoritie, that you know of
your hearers of, what their names and surnames are :

32 Whether there be any in your Parish who are knowne or suspected
to containe, or keepe hidden in their houses any Spells Bookes, Portresses,
Brentaries, or other Bookes of Popery or superstition: or any Chailices,
Copes, Vestments, Albes, or other ornaments of superstition, or cancelles
or unclesed, which isto be coniectured that they doe keepe for a day, as
they call it.

33 Whether any of your Parishioners, having a Preacher to their
Parson, Vicar, or Curate, doe absent themselves from his Sermons,
and resort to any other place to heare other Preachers.

34 Whether there be any Inne-keepers, Alewives, Victuallers, or
Tollers, that suffer or doe admit any person, or persons in their houses,
to eat, or drinke, or play at Dice, Cards, Tables, Bowles, or such like
games, in the time of Common prayer or Sermon, on Sundayes or Holy-
daies: Or any Butchers, or other, that commonly vse to sell meate or other
things in the time of Common prayer, Preaching, or reading of Homilies:
and whether in any Fayres, or common Markets, falling upon Sundayes,
there be shewing of any wares before morning prayer be done: And
whether any Markets or selling of wares be vsed, or suffered in any
Church-yards on the Sabbath day by common pack men and Pedlers go-
ing about, or any Butchers:

35 Whether hath your Minister, or any of the parish, without the con-
sent or prinitie of the Ordinarie, caused any to doe penance, or to be pu-
nished either openly or otherwise, by any Westrie matings, or taken mo-
ney for any crime punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes onely, and
what be the names of the parties that haue bene so punished, and in what
manner :

36 Whether there be any in your parish who will come to heare the
Sermon, but will not come to the publike prayer, appointed by the Booke
of common prayer, making a schisme or diuision (as it were) betwaine the
vse of publike prayer and preaching: and whether there be any who being
present at publike prayer, doe not deuotly and humbly kneele upon their
knees, at such times as by the Booke of common prayer they are appointed:
to wit, when they make a generall confession of their sinnes: when all
Prayers and Collects are read: in the time of the Letanie: when the ten
Commandements are read: & at the receiuing of the holy Communion, &c.
And what be their names that haue at any time shewed themselves un-
dutyfull and irreuerent in that behalfe :

37 Whether there be any married women, or others within your pa-
rish,

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which after childe-birth refuse, contemne, or neglect, to come to the Church to giue God thanks for their safe deliuerie, & to haue the prayers publickly appointed in that behalfe by the Woke of common prayer?

38 Whether any within your parish doe resort into Barnes, Fields, Woods, private houses, to any extraordinary exposition of Scriptures, conferences together, or that be drawers or perswaders of others to any such schismaticall conuenticle.

39 Whether any doe keepe their children unbaptized longer then is convenient, vnlesse that it be for the sickness of the childe, or other urgent occasion: And whether any doe carry their childe or children from the parish they are borne in, to other parishes to be baptized, and so refuse their owne parish, and to what other parish & or doe bring strange Ministers into their owne houses to baptize their children privately, according to their owne fantasies?

40 Item, (Setting downe the full summe of the Communicants within your Parish) you shall present euery one who hath bene defectiue at his feast of Easter last past, in receiuing the holy Communion vpon neglect, contempt, or any other pretence and excuse.

41 Whether doe you know of any other matter of Ecclesiasticall cogizance worthy the presentment, in your indgement, heretofore in these Articles not expresse, and which is fit to be reformed in Ecclesiasticall censure? If you doe, you shall likewise present the same by vertue of your oathes.

42 Whether hath your Minister kept any Excommunication in his notebook vnpublished against any of his Parishioners, above the space of xx. dayes next after the receit thereof, without some lawfull certifi-
cat of the absolution of any such excommunicate person, or of some lawfull warrant for the stay of the same Excommunication.

43 Whether hath your Minister admitted any excommunicate person to the holy Communion before he hath receiued a certifi-
cat of the absolution of the same partie: And whether haue you permitted any excommunicate person either of your owne parish or of any other parish, to heare diuine Service in your parish Church, since the time you took vpon you the office of Churchwardens within your saide parish? If yes, set downe the names of the same parties.

44 Whether hath your Minister absolved any excommunicate person or persons of your parish, or of any other parish within the Archdeaconsry of Essex, within the space of a yere last past, without a speciall warrant in writing vnder the hands of the Judge and Register of this Court, or of one of them? If yea, what are the names of such person or persons which he hath so absolved.

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all 45 Whether hath your Minister, your selues, or your predecessors Church-wardens of your parish for the year last past, presented any person or persons of your said parish to the Chancelloz of the reuerend Father in God, the Lord Bishop of London (saying in the Visitation of the sayd Lord Bishop.) And whether hath your Minister, your selues, or your predecessors Church-wardens of your said parish, for the year last past, presented any person or persons to the Commisarie of the said reuerend Father in God: If yea, what are the names of such person or persons which you or they haue so presented, and for what cause did you or they present any such person or persons.

Articles to be inquired of, by the Minister, Church-wardens, & Sworne-men of every Parish within the Archdeaconsie of *Essex*, according to the speciall direction of certaine letters heretofore sent to the Lord Bishop of *London*, from the right Honourable the Lords of the Priuie Counsell.

IN primis, Whether there be any in your Parish, either Parishioners, Sojourners, or such as be late come out of other Countries into your Parish, which do refuse to come to diuine Service to the Parish Church, or elswhere: and what be their names, and surnames, and how long they haue refused so to doe.

2 Item, How many of their wiues and children above the age of fixe sene yeres, seruants and other sojourners, abiding in their houses, doe likewise refuse so to doe: and what be their names and surnames, and how long they haue refused so to doe:

3 Item, Whether there be any in your Parish, which be suspected to haue bene reconciled to the Popish Religion, or to haue bene absolved, or any that procured or councelled any thereunto: and what be their names and surnames.

4 Item, Whether there be any in your Parish which be suspected to be Spassing Priests, Reconcilers, Jesuits, Seminaries, or other persons, which haue receiued any orders or authoritie from the Romish Church, to be the like: and what be their names and surnames.

5 Item, Whether there be any Schoole-masters within your Parish, which doe not bring vp their youth in the Religion now professed, or be not themselves diligent in repaying to diuine Service, or bringing their Scholers to it:

[illegible]

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. in relation to the above named matter. I have the honor to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
 Yours, very truly,
 J. M. Smith